



**200**

**RTF FORUM  
MEMBER COMPANIES**

# **RENEWABLE TRANSPORT FUELS FORUM**

## **Annual Summary | Sept 2020 - Aug 2021**



**REA** TRANSPORT FUELS



We exist for the benefit of our members - you.

Despite the disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic we have been working hard to overcome the day-to-day impact of the pandemic and support our members. A stream of consultations has continued to flow from Government, and we greatly appreciate the continued engagement and support of our members in helping us ensure Government takes their views into account. We would be delighted to hear from you and discuss any issues you may have or to provide further information on the work we do.

### **COVID-19: BUSINESS CONTINUITY, RECOVERY AND THE NEW NORMAL**

During the pandemic, we prioritised business continuity support for our members and put together a log of issues raised by members and had regular calls with the Defra, Energy Minister, BEIS, Scottish Government and Senior level contact with all relevant Government Departments.

We set up a dedicated webpage and a member briefing note which was updated regularly. We took direct action on a variety of issues.

As pandemic restrictions have relaxed over the summer, the REA team has begun to return to the office in a flexible working format.

**7**

**Consultations responded to on your behalf**

**11**

**Stakeholders regularly engaged with**

**9**

**Events and meetings held**

**REA**

# Consultation Response

## CONSULTATIONS

On the face of it, 2020-21 was a quiet year for Government consultations on renewable transport fuels. However, this masks the scope of the consultations which has been considerable. In particular, the Future of Transport Regulatory Review consultation, which was effectively four separate consultations bundled into one.

We are grateful to all members who have been involved in REA consultation responses by sharing your experiences, thoughts and expertise. This has enabled the REA to present a unified and authoritative voice to Government, regulators and others on behalf of our members.

Consultations responded to included:

1. HM Treasury: Reforms to the tax treatment of red diesel (closed Oct 2020)
2. DfT: RTFO (closed April 2021)
3. Ofgem: draft guidance on interaction between RTFO and the RHI in relation to biomethane (closed July 2021)
4. DfT: Jet Zero (closed Sept 2021)
5. DfT: SAF mandate (closed Sept 2021)
6. DfT: phase out date for sale of new non-zero emission HGVs (closed Sept 2021)
7. DfT: new CO2 emissions regulatory framework for all newly sold road vehicles (closed Sept 2021)



## STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

We regularly meet with government and other stakeholders such as DfT (RTFO unit, low carbon fuels policy, Office for Zero Emission Vehicles), BEIS, Treasury.

We are also involved in groups tackling industry issues including:

1. DfT co-ordination group on roll out of E10
2. Zemo Partnership (formerly Low Carbon Vehicle Partnership). We are on the Fuels Working Group and have also fed into their report on deployment opportunities for high blend biofuels
3. Jet Zero Council. REA's chief executive sits on the main Council. Paul Thompson attends the Delivery Group and sub-groups on commercialisation and mandates
4. Fed into policy development work on possible Contracts for Difference policy for aviation (detailed engagement with report author, Nic Rigby)
5. Gas Vehicle Network: working to ensure that longer term measures to decarbonise HGVs do not undermine GHG savings available now from use of biomethane in trucks
6. European Biogas Association transport working group. Useful for EU-level policy co-ordination for both liquid and gaseous fuels
7. Ensured views of RTFF members are fully-integrated within REA responses to the various BEIS hydrogen consultations
8. Engage with Ofgem and BEIS on interaction between RTFO and RHI/Green Gas Support Scheme
9. Green Gas Certification Scheme guarantees of origin for renewable gas
10. Co-ordination with REA's EV Forum to ensure messages are aligned and reinforce each other
11. Co-ordination with other trade associations, including RTFA, ADBA, Petrol Retailer's Association



## RTF FORUM STRUCTURE

Ian Waller (In Perpetuum Partners) chairs the forum. After serving as interim chair, he was confirmed in post in May 2021. The forum does not currently have a vice chair, but if any members are interested in putting themselves forward for this role, please contact Paul Thompson.

In 2021 we set up a working group for Sustainable Aviation Fuel. This group is chaired by Paul Preston (Reynolds Logistics).

## REA STRATEGY

Over the past year, the REA has developed and published a comprehensive Strategy document, detailing how to deliver the UK's Net Zero goal and interim targets to get us there. In the Strategy, we have crystallised our view of how the UK can reach the Net Zero target, and how the REA can play a leading role in helping UK industry take the steps to reach this target.

Our Strategy is divided into four pillars: circular bioresources, heat, power & flexibility, and transport. Each pillar has its own impact target based on the REA's analysis of what is necessary and what is possible to reach Net Zero by 2050, and how each pillar's technologies play a role in decarbonising their respective industries. Each pillar also features interim targets, ensuring that momentum is kept up and we can track progress.

The Renewable Transport Fuels Forum is under the Transport pillar.

Too often the various technology options of renewable fuels, electrification and hydrogen are seen in silos or even as contradictory. With the REA's strong presence in all three areas, we are uniquely placed to make the case that we need all of these to play their part if the transport sector is to deliver on net zero. Over the coming months, REA's Strategy will play a greater role in our organisational structure as we implement it with support from the REA Board and Policy Board who, along with REA staff, were instrumental in developing our Strategy document.

WEBINAR

## EVENTS & MEETINGS

We have continued to take a flexible approach to engaging with our members during the pandemic. Most meetings have been on-line, which has enabled us to respond more quickly to events. This enabled us to have a series of technology-focussed meetings on the RTFO consultation - despite it being a short consultation that included the Easter holiday period.

Some events have been held in person or in a hybrid format. We hope to be able to move to a greater proportion of events and meetings in person in 2022 - although experience of the last 18 months shows that there are some situations where a virtual meeting is preferable.

- o RTFF meeting, Oct 2020
- o DfT quarterly stakeholder meetings in Nov 2020, April 2021, July 2021, Nov 2021
- o British Renewable Energy Awards (competition 2020, awards ceremony January 2021)
- o Event on RHI/RTFO interaction - speakers from BEIS, DfT, Ofgem and industry, April 2021
- o RTFF meetings re RTFO consultation. Sessions on hydrogen from electricity, recycled carbon fuels & SAF, biohydrogen & biomethane and overall targets, April 2021
- o SAF working group initial meeting, July 2021
- o Full RTFF meeting - DfT attended for input on the forthcoming low carbon fuels strategy, Sept 2021
- o SAF working group meeting, Sept 2021
- o Green Gas Day, Sept 2021 (event mainly held in person in Birmingham)





## OTHER REA ACTIVITY

The Renewable Transport Fuels Forum works very closely with other member forums of the REA, including waste to energy, hydrogen, green gas and electric vehicles. We collaborate to ensure that forum members are represented, and also to that we value our members' time by avoiding duplication of effort.

The REA has other member forums covering all things renewable energy and clean technology from biomass, landfill gas, organics, energy storage, innovation, solar and finance, so if there is something else you are interested in, make sure you are signed up to the correct member forums. Our membership team can help with this, email [membership@r-e-a.net](mailto:membership@r-e-a.net).

## THANK YOU

Thank you to all members of the REA's Renewable Transport Fuels Forum, we are here to support you and without you we wouldn't exist. We are grateful for your support and look forward to hearing from you and hopefully seeing you at some of our events next year.



## TALKING TO YOU

We communicate with members mostly through our website and direct email newsletters. We send regular RTF Forum e-news and other direct mailings as required. The REA also has a weekly members' newsletter. If you don't receive our communications and would like to, please let us know and we will arrange it for you.

We also communicate directly to members on certain topics, either by phone or by email, where quick input is required or where information comes to light that is of urgent relevance to particular members. We are always happy to hear from our members, please email [pthompson@r-e-a.net](mailto:pthompson@r-e-a.net).

## REA TEAM



Kiara Zennaro  
Head of Heat and  
Green Gas Lead



Frank Gordon  
Director of Policy



Paul Thompson  
Head of Renewable  
Transport Fuels and  
Landfill Gas

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